

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-10 without prejudice. Please add new claims 11-22 as shown below in the List of Claims.

List of Claims

- 1-10. Cancelled.
11. (New) A process for the preparation of an enantiomerically enriched organic compound in a coupled enzymatic reaction system, comprising:
- a) enzymatically transforming an organic substrate in a first transformation during which NAD(P)H is consumed; and
 - b) enzymatically oxidizing L-malic acid to pyruvate and CO₂ in a second transformation during which NAD(P)H is regenerated, said second transformation being catalyzed by malate dehydrogenase;
- and wherein the pyruvate formed in said second transformation is not employed as a substrate in said first enzymatic transformation.
12. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein said first transformation is catalyzed by an alcohol dehydrogenase or amino acid dehydrogenase.
13. (New) The process of claim 12, wherein said first transformation is catalyzed by an alcohol dehydrogenase from *Lactobacillus kefir* or *Rhodococcus erythropolis*.
14. (New) The process of claim 12, wherein said first transformation is catalyzed by a leucine dehydrogenase or phenylalanine dehydrogenase.
15. (New) The process of any one of claims 11-14 wherein said malate dehydrogenase is from *E. coli*.
16. (New) The process of claim 15, wherein said *E. coli* is *E. coli* K12.

17. (New) The process of any one of claims 11-14, wherein said process is carried out in an aqueous single- or multi-phase solvent mixture.
18. (New) The process of any one of claims 11-14 wherein the temperature during said process is maintained at between 20 and 40°C.
19. (New) The process of any one of claims 11-14 wherein the pH during said process is maintained at between 6 and 9.
20. (New) A coupled enzymatic reaction system for the preparation of an enantiomerically enriched organic compound, comprising:
 - a) enzymatically transforming an organic substrate in a first transformation during which NAD(P)H is consumed; and
 - b) enzymatically oxidizing L-malic acid to pyruvate and CO₂ in a second transformation during which NAD(P)H is regenerated, said second transformation being catalyzed by malate dehydrogenase;and wherein the pyruvate formed in said second transformation is not employed as a substrate in said first transformation.
21. (New) A recombinant cell comprising:
 - a) a cloned nucleotide sequence encoding an enzyme, said enzyme catalyzing the transformation of an organic substrate, other than pyruvate, during which NAD(P)H is consumed; and
 - b) a cloned nucleotide sequence encoding malate dehydrogenase.
22. (New) A plasmid comprising a nucleotide sequence coding for a malate dehydrogenase and a nucleotide sequence coding for an enzyme catalyzing the transformation of an organic substrate, other than pyruvate, during which NAD(P)H is consumed.